



# SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Dennis Middle

Lee

Grades: 6-8

Enrollment: 404

Principal: Kwamine Simpson

Superintendent: Dr. Cleo Richardson

Board Chair: Sanya Moses

## PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on [www.ed.sc.gov](http://www.ed.sc.gov) and [www.eoc.sc.gov](http://www.eoc.sc.gov) as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD/SILVER AWARD	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
2008	At-Risk	Below Average	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2007	At-Risk	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2006	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\*

EXCELLENT

0

GOOD

0

AVERAGE

0

BELOW AVERAGE

4

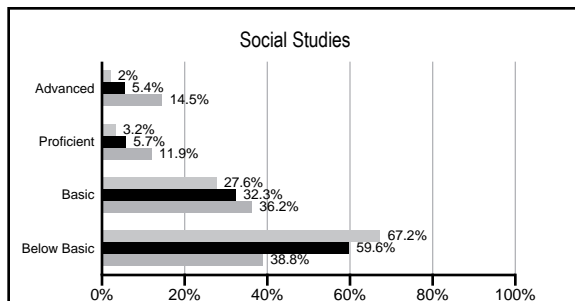
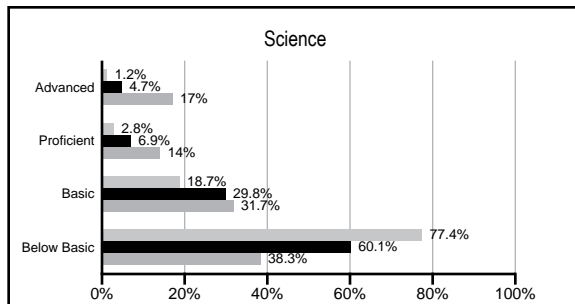
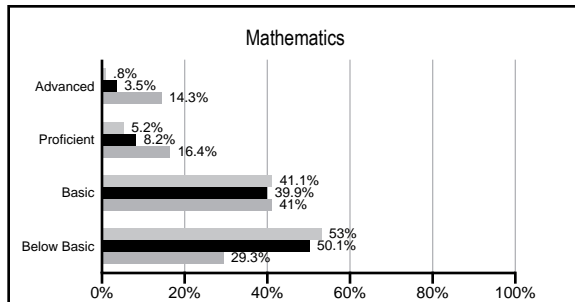
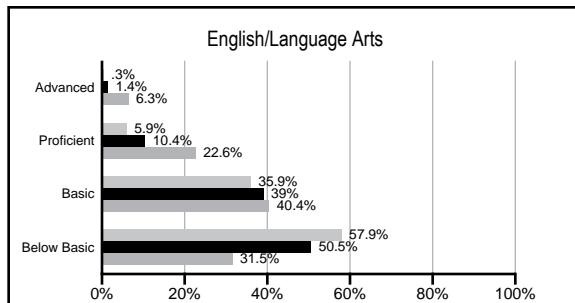
AT-RISK

42

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/02/2009. Schools with Students like Ours are Middle Schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

## PACT PERFORMANCE

Our School Middle Schools with Students Like Ours Middle schools statewide



## NAEP PERFORMANCE\*

\* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.

### READING - GRADE 8 (2007)

South Carolina	31	44	23	2
Nation	27	43	27	2
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

### MATH - GRADE 8 (2007)

South Carolina	29	39	24	7
Nation	30	39	24	7
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

### SCIENCE - GRADE 8 (2005)

South Carolina	46	31	21	2
Nation	43	30	24	3
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

## END OF COURSE TESTS - 2008

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0%	84.0%
English 1	90.0%	82.3%
Physical Science	0%	39.5%
All Subjects	94.6%	80.6%

## SC PERFORMANCE GOAL

2010 Goal:

*By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.*

2020 Goal: TBD

### Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined  
 NI Newly Identified CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status

## Dennis Middle [Lee]

### SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
<b>Students (n=404)</b>				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	40.6%	Up from 12.7%	11.5%	19.4%
Retention rate	5.3%	Up from 2.8%	3.4%	1.8%
Attendance rate	95.0%	Up from 94.7%	95.1%	95.8%
Eligible for gifted and talented	0.0%	Down from 1.2%	4.8%	15.3%
With disabilities other than speech	13.9%	Up from 11.3%	13.5%	12.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	1.2%	No Change	0.7%	0.7%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	N/A	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Teachers (n=22)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	63.6%	Up from 52.2%	54.0%	55.0%
Continuing contract teachers	27.3%	Down from 47.8%	54.4%	70.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	35.3%	Down from 45.0%	19.3%	5.4%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	76.4%	83.4%
Teacher attendance rate	95.7%	Down from 97.3%	94.8%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$43,280	Up 9.1%	\$43,090	\$44,706
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	25.5%	Up from 11.5%	8.5%	2.9%
<b>School</b>				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 1.0	2.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	21.9 to 1	Down from 24.1 to 1	15.7 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.2%	Down from 91.8%	88.9%	89.3%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Good	Up from Average	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$4,405	N/A	\$9,032	\$7,097
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	69.9%	N/A	62.4%	64.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	64.8%	N/A	54.7%	59.4%
% of AYP objectives met	52.9%		53.8%	69.0%

\* Prior year audited financial data available.

### EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	19	108	52
Percent satisfied with learning environment	73.7%	53.3%	69.2%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	63.2%	59.4%	64.0%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	68.4%	74.3%	67.3%

\*Only students at the highest middle school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

## REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Dennis Middle School served 389 students in Lee County during the 2007-2008 school year. The mission of Dennis Middle School is to provide all students with an environment that is challenging, motivating, and nurturing in order to prepare them for success in a rapidly changing technological society.

The instructional focus for this year was Writing Across the Curriculum. All teachers were provided with staff development on the writing process and how to teach writing. Monthly, students participated in the school-wide Writing across the Curriculum initiative. Additionally, Dennis Middle teachers implemented a new curriculum and were provided with staff development on how to effectively implement the curriculum. The faculty book study for the 2007-2008 school year was What Great Teachers Do Differently.

Dennis Middle School began its implementation of Making Middle Grades Work initiative whose purpose is to raise the academic performance of all middle school students. In keeping with the MMGW ten key practices, students were provided with several opportunities for extra assistance, both through the After-School tutorial and the Extended Summer Enrichment programs. As an additional component of the character education and after-school program, Dennis Middle School partnered with Communities in Schools and Clemson Extension to provide an etiquette and manners course for students. We also implemented the "zero is not option policy," in which students were given additional opportunities to complete missed assignments. Teachers also used data obtained from Flanagan's Test for Higher Standards nine-weeks benchmark assessments and Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) tests to determine students' areas of strength and weakness and used the results to guide instruction.

One of the challenges facing Dennis Middle School is school/home communication and support. The faculty, staff, and parent organizations worked to establish initiatives to increase the amount of parental support. In order to increase communication with parents, we utilized a phone dialer system to contact parents regarding upcoming events and general announcements. Parents received detailed progress reports that were generated from InteGrade Pro every nine weeks.

In an effort to increase academic achievement at Dennis Middle School, additional goals have been established and a focused School Renewal Plan has been developed.

Kwamine Simpson, Principal  
Everette Jenkins, SIC Chairperson

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